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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

March 7, 1955

My dear Mr. Dulles:

Reference is made to your letter of January 21.

After hearing from you, I requested that the files of this Subcommittee containing the material on CIA be reviewed to determine the kind and type of derogatory information contained therein.

Unfortunately, it was found that those files were not in the file office of the Investigating Subcommittee, but were in the possession of the former Chairman, Senator McCarthy. Those files have been returned to the Subcommittee within the past week and I have instructed that they be reviewed. Upon the completion of this study I shall again be in touch with you.

I regret the delay in answering your letter, but I am sure that you understand there are always certain delays when the Senate reorganizes.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,


John L. McClellan
Chairman

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.



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21 Jan 55

The Honorable John L. McClellan,
Chairman, Permanent Subcommittee
on Investigations
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to call to your attention certain correspondence with Senator McCarthy as your predecessor as Chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

During the hearings on security of the Government Printing Office, Senator McCarthy publicly stated that an alleged member of the Communist Party had access to secret data of the Central Intelligence Agency. By letter of 22 October 1953 I pointed out to Senator McCarthy that no CIA classified material is printed in the main GPO plant. Further, it was requested that information concerning this Agency or its personnel developed in the course of investigations be made available to me for thorough inspection. No reply was received to that communication.

During the closing days of the Army hearings, Senator McCarthy made several references to alleged Communist infiltration of the Central Intelligence Agency. On 7 July 1954 I wrote Senator McCarthy and requested that he make available to me at the earliest possible moment any unfavorable information bearing on the loyalty or integrity of any employee of CIA. Although Senator McCarthy had publicly stated that he was "disturbed beyond words" by the alleged success of Communists in penetrating the CIA, there was no reply to this communication.

Copies of the aforementioned letters are attached for your information.

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According to press report of 15 January 1955, Senator McCarthy made available to General Mark W. Clark information on "alleged communism and corruption" in the Central Intelligence Agency. As you will note from the attached telegram of 15 January 1955, I advised General Clark that if any of the information which Senator McCarthy had turned over to him contains any "indication of communism or corruption in the CIA, I would investigate the matter immediately and thoroughly."

I would like to renew my request that the Committee kindly make available to me any information it may have in its files or which it may develop in future investigations which might reflect on the CIA or its personnel. I would desire to make a thorough investigation of any such information.

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you personally any matters respecting the CIA which you feel might bear on the Committee's work, and I await word from you whether and when you consider such a conversation would be desirable.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed)

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosures:

2, as indicated above

O/IG/LBKirkpatrick: Kb - 18 January 1955
retyped 21 January 1955

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